

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preserving ~~a~~**material vitamins** subject to oxidative damage comprising adding purified nucleic acid to the ~~material~~ **vitamins** wherein the nucleic acid reduces the rate of oxidative damage of the ~~material~~ **vitamins**.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid comprises DNA.

3. - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising adding purified nucleic acid to an aqueous solution of hydrophilic ~~material~~ **vitamins** subject to oxidative damage.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising adding purified nucleic acid in a solvent with both hydrophilic and hydrophobic regions to **[[a]]** hydrophobic ~~material~~ **vitamins** subject to oxidative damage.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising adding aggregates of nucleic acid less than 50 μ M in diameter to **[[a]]** hydrophobic ~~material~~ **vitamins** subject to oxidative damage.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising spraying the purified nucleic acid onto the surface of the ~~material~~ **vitamins** subject to oxidative damage.

14. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising:
a ~~material~~ vitamin subject to oxidative damage; and
purified nucleic acid,
wherein the composition comprises an amount of purified nucleic acid sufficient to
reduce the rate of oxidative damage to the ~~material~~ vitamin.

15. (Original) The composition method of Claim 14, wherein the nucleic acid
comprises DNA.

16. - 24. (Canceled)